

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated August 8, 2007. Claims 1 to 18 are pending in the application, of which Claims 1, 13 and 15 to 18 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 18 were objected to for various informalities. Applicant submits that the foregoing amendments to the claims corrected each of the objections. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of these objections.

Claims 17 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claimed invention is allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter. Without conceding the correctness of the rejection, Applicant has amended Claims 17 and 18 to clarify that they are directed to a computer-readable medium storing a computer program. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Claims 1 to 12, 15 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Without conceding the correctness of the rejection, Applicant has amended “the data” to read “the original data of the object page” to clarify the source of the data being converted. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Claims 1 to 3, 5 to 9, 11 to 13 and 15 to 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 7,194,696 (Mori). Claims 4 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Mori in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,842,262 (Gillihan). Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Mori in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,621,590 (Livingston). Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 15 and 17.

Turning to specific claim language, amended independent Claim 1 is directed to a printing control method of converting original data into print data processible by a printing apparatus. The method includes a displaying step of displaying a first setting screen to set a basic attribute applied to whole print data and a second setting screen to set a back-side attribute applied to all pages corresponding to the back side of the printing medium output in the double-sided printing; a setting step of setting the basic attribute using the first setting screen and the back-side attribute using the second setting screen; a determining step of determining whether an object page to be converted into the print data corresponds to the front side of the printing medium or the back side of the printing medium; and a conversion step of converting the original data of the object page into the print data in accordance with the basic attribute when the object page is determined in the determining step to be corresponding to the front side of the printing medium, converting the original data of the object page into the print data in accordance with the back-side attribute when the object page is determined in the determining step to be corresponding to the back side of the printing medium.

Applicant respectfully submit Mori fails to disclose or suggest all of the features of the method of Claim 1. In particular, Mori fails to disclose or suggest at least the features of displaying a first setting screen to set a basic attribute applied to whole print data and a second setting screen to set a back-side attribute applied to all pages corresponding to the back side of the printing medium output in the double-sided printing, setting the basic attribute using the first setting screen and the back-side attribute using the second setting screen, determining whether an object page to be converted into the print data corresponds to the front side of the printing medium or the back side of the printing medium; and converting the original data of the object

page into the print data in accordance with the basic attribute when the object page is determined in said determining step to be corresponding to the front side of the printing medium, converting the original data of the object page into the print data in accordance with the back-side attribute when the object page is determined in said determining step to be corresponding to the back side of the printing medium. Accordingly, as the method includes a step of, when the drawing data is printed on two sides of a sheet, determining a back-side attribute applied to only pages corresponding to back sides of the sheets, the method of Claim 1 allows setting of different attributes to the front sides and the back sides of sheets in double-sided document by in an easily performed operation.

In contrast, Mori discloses an information processing apparatus that sets a book attribute applied to an entire document, a chapter attribute applied to an individual chapter dependently of the book attribute, and a page attribute applied to an individual page independent from the book attribute and the chapter attribute. While Mori may allow setting different attributes to the front side and the back side of a sheet, the setting cannot be easily performed because the page attribute in Mori is required to be set for each page that a user desires.

According to Mori, page attributes for the back side of every page should be set after setting the book attribute for an entire document. For example, assuming a document consists of 50 sheets, if the user desires to change settings for the back side of respective sheets from settings of the front sheet, the user must prepare 50 page attributes for a respective back side for each sheet of the document.

However, utilizing the method of Claim 1, a user utilizes the setting step and sets the basic attribute using the first setting screen and the back-side attribute using the second setting screen. Therefore, a user can prepare the back-side attribute that is applied to respective

back side of each sheet of an entire document. For example, again assuming a document consists of 50 sheets, the user can prepare a back side attribute applied to respective sheets of the document by inputting appropriate values in the second setting screen as if the user prepares an attribute for only one page.

In addition, Applicant has reviewed both Gillihan and Livingston and submits that neither reference discloses or suggest that which is missing from Mori. Specifically, neither Gillihan nor Livingston disclose or suggest displaying a first setting screen to set a basic attribute applied to whole print data and a second setting screen to set a back-side attribute applied to all pages corresponding to the back side of the printing medium output in the double-sided printing, setting the basic attribute using the first setting screen and the back-side attribute using the second setting screen, determining whether an object page to be converted into the print data corresponds to the front side of the printing medium or the back side of the printing medium; and converting the original data of the object page into the print data in accordance with the basic attribute when the object page is determined in said determining step to be corresponding to the front side of the printing medium, converting the original data of the object page into the print data in accordance with the back-side attribute when the object page is determined in said determining step to be corresponding to the back side of the printing medium.

In light of these deficiencies of Mori, Gillihan and Livingston, Applicant submits that amended independent Claim 1 is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Amended independent Claims 15 and 17 are directed to an apparatus and a computer-readable medium, respectively, substantially in accordance with the method of Claim

1. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claims 15 and 17 are also now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Claims 13, 16 and 18.

Claim 13 is directed to a printing control method of converting input drawing data into print data printable by a printing apparatus and transferring the print data to the printing apparatus. The method includes a step of determining a basic attribute applied to whole drawing data, a step of recording in a setting table the basic attribute determined in the basic setting determination step, a step of, when the drawing data is printed on two sides of a sheet, determining a back-side attribute applied to only pages corresponding to back sides of the sheets, a step of recording in the setting table the back-side attribute determined in the step of determining the back-side attribute, and a generation step of generating the print data based on the basic attribute and the drawing data when the drawing data of an object page is data to be printed on the front side of the sheet, generating the print data based on the back-side attribute and the drawing data when the drawing data of the object page is data to be printed on the back side of the sheet.

Applicant respectfully submit Mori fails to disclose or suggest all of the features of the method of Claim 1. In particular, Mori fails to disclose or suggest at least the feature of a step of, when the drawing data is printed on two sides of a sheet, determining a back-side attribute applied to only pages corresponding to back sides of the sheets. In a similar manner as discussed in regard to Claim 1, an apparatus implementing the method of Claim 13 can set different attributes to the front sides and the back sides of sheets in double-sided document by an

easily performed operation. As previously discussed in regard to Claim 1, Mori, Gillihan and Livingston fail to disclose such a feature.

In light of the deficiencies of Mori, Gillihan and Livingston as discussed above, Applicant submits that amended independent Claim 13 is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Amended independent Claims 16 and 18 are directed to an apparatus and a computer-readable medium, respectively, substantially in accordance with the method of Claim 13. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claims 16 and 18 are also now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

The other pending claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed allowable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each dependent claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

CONCLUSION

No claim fees are believed due; however, should it be determined that additional claim fees are required, the Director is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 50-3939.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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